

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please insert the following at line 5 on page 1 of the specification.

**--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED PATENT APPLICATION**

The present patent application claims the right of priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 (a)-(d) of German Patent Application No. 102 29 218.3, filed June 28, 2002.--

Please amend the heading at line 6 on page 1 of the specification as follows.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

Please amend the paragraph at lines 7-9 on page 1 of the specification as follows.

~~Field of the Invention:~~ The invention relates to novel 3,4-alkylenedioxythiophene dimers and trimers, to their preparation and to their use as precursors for conductive polymers.

Please insert the following at line 10 on page 1 of the specification.

**--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--**

Please amend the paragraph at page 1, lines 11-13 of the specification as follows.

~~Brief Description of the Prior Art:~~ The class of  $\pi$ -conjugated polymeric compounds (also referred to as conductive polymers or as synthetic metals) has been the subject-matter of numerous publications in the last few decades.